

**MINUTES**  
**POST Conference Call**  
**02/17/09**

**I. Call meeting to Order, roll call, identify guests:**

Meeting called to order by Winnie Ore at 10:05am.  
**(notification made of the meeting being recorded.)**

**Present:** Winnie Ore-Chair, Wayne Ternes-Executive Director, Steve Barry, Greg Watson, Dennis McCave, Ray Murray, Bob McCarthy, Bonnie Wallem, Levi Talkington, Tony Harbaugh, Tana Meuer, Georgette Hogan, Deborah Butler

**Absent:** Frannie Combs

**Guests:** none

**II. Approval of minutes from January 20, 2009 Conference Call**

Winnie pointed out a duplicated paragraph on page 4 discussing a late EQ request; this should be struck out.

Dennis McCave stated his was present for January meeting but not listed.

Steve Barry stated his discussion regarding a form letter of denial, (on page 5) should be moved to the Extension request section.

**Bob McCarthy motioned to approve minutes after the corrections have been changed**  
**Dennis McCave seconded**  
**Motion carried**

**III. Old Business**

- **Pike De-cert**

Deborah explained Pike was an officer, who received a DUI in Bozeman, which was set up for a default hearing. He had been served but never come forward so there was hope that he would just relinquish his certificate. The hearing was held and asked that Peter Funk hold him uncertifiable. Pike went to basic but was not certified. He also failed to appear in court once for the DUI, in addition to no response to variety of certified mail

Deborah asked that the council find Pike permanently uncertifiable.

Levi clarified that this matter was based more on the fact that Pike never answered to the charges, vs. the charge itself.

Deborah commented that was accurate; explaining that people do make mistakes, but you have to draw the line somewhere especially when Pike doesn't seem to even be interested in fighting to keep his certification.

**Dennis McCave motioned to render Pike permanently uncertifiable.  
Steve Barry Seconded  
Motion carried**

Debora stated Gardella had been permanently uncertified, she called Roland Mena with Montana Board of Crime Control to get put on their agenda at their next meeting so they can get this case accomplished.

- **Chouteau County Issue (update)**

Wayne visited Chouteau County and met with the chair of the police commission and Chief John Turner to discuss the packet of complaint. Fort Benton Police Commission will send a written response of explanation in writing to the Council, which should be received this week or early next week, regarding the complaint.

Winnie explained that Wayne was asked to stop and advise Sheriff Vern Burdick of the meeting, but since Wayne felt it was inappropriate he did not make that visit. She added that Wayne did call and invite the Sheriff to join the meeting, but he had declined due to conflict with other obligations.

Brief discussion held.

- **Sanders County Issue (update)**

Wayne stated we should discuss this at another time when it can be closed as an executive session.

Winnie asked if the council felt this would be better to have McKeen appear in person or at least a conference call when the Council is together in a face to face meeting.

Steve Barry and Dennis McCave agree with this suggestion.

Levi stated we should set a standard to hold all decertification's in person.

Discussion held.

Winnie reminded the council of the MLEA agenda material that had been distributed at the last meeting. She asked that everyone be familiar with this

material so when recommended changes to the curriculum are brought forward, we are prepared to ask questions and make a quick response.

Winnie will be requesting curriculum for all Basics: PSC, CDOB, LEOB for review so when any changes come to us, we are prepared.

Winnie stated the curriculum committee and do a more extensive look, but without holding up the academy.

Dennis mentioned he would like the Curriculum Committee to meet the afternoon of April 15<sup>th</sup> (the day before the council meeting) to review these items.

Steve Barry asked what type of input does Kevin Olson gather from the law enforcement community? Performances, weaknesses, strengths, etc.?

Winnie stated Kevin Olson is using survey monkey to gather outcome studies.

### **III. New Business**

- **New Appointments:**

Bonnie has been reappointed, Greg Watson replaces Mike Reddick, representing state government law enforcement, Tony Harbaugh had been reappointed, Ray Murray, Steve Barry, Dennis McCave reappointed and Bob McCarthy has been reappointed as a public member, replacing Hanna Tillman and our new county attorney; Georgette Hogan.

- **Legislative Issues Update:**

HB 293 – EQ: Cindy Hiner’s bill went fine, passed through the floor 99-1 votes and moved on to the Senate.

HB 436 – Sheriff’s Qualifications: brief discussion held.

- **Comments:**

Wayne commented that for our April meeting he will have a current list of investigative files. Quite a few are recommended to be closed.

Wayne made comment regarding reserve officers and the finding that numerous agencies are using reserves as part time paid employees which then fit under 7-32-303 where they should then be attending the academy appropriately training; which they are not – still only at the level of a reserve. POST is receiving calls from attorneys for training records and only a matter of time these

attorneys take these cases on, and agencies will be losing some good cases.

Discussion held.

Deborah commented on the IADLST conference. Deborah was asked to attend but needs to get the funding approved.

Winnie suggested a Thank You letter for the approval of Deborah's attendance to the conference.

- **Approval/Denial of Pending Certification List**

**Levi Talkington motioned to approve the Pending Certification list**

**Bob McCarthy seconded**

**Motion carried**

- **Approval/Denial of Extension Requests**

Wayne stated Rick Henthorn from Sweet Grass County to attend the Sept. LEOB.

Also, stated we cannot give extension to Justin Stokes because he had received an extension previously when working with Pondera County for one year, plus 6 month extension (without going to basic); then was let go. He went to Teton County as a dispatcher then hired as a deputy but can't pass the fitness test. Justin Stokes now has a slot in the April Basic.

**Tony Harbaugh moved to grant the extension for Officer Rick Henthorn**

**Bob McCarthy seconded**

**Motion carried**

**Motion on the denial of extension for Justin Stokes:**

Tony asked if this even requires board action. It's something that doesn't really need consideration so no need to make motion.

Deborah felt there was no risk or liability by not making a motion, but felt it's important that Wayne indicates what he's done with them even though no board action is taken.

- **Approval/Denial of Equivalency Requests**

**Tony Harbaugh Motioned to accept the Equivalency Request.**

**Dennis seconded**

**Motion carried**

**IV. Public Comment** – no public present

Council Comments:

Ray Murray advised he will not be present at the April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009 meeting.

Dennis asked if we were going to address the November minutes in April.

Winnie advised this was accurate.

**V. Adjourn**

**Dennis McCave motioned to adjourn meeting**

**Bob McCarthy Seconded**

**Motioned carried**

Next conference call will be March 16, 2009 (Monday) at 10:00am. And our next Face to face meeting will be April 16, 2009, with the Curriculum meeting held (the day prior) April 15, 2009.